

CLASSIFICATION <u>SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY</u>		25X1
COUNTRY <u>East Germany</u>	REPORT NO. 	
TOPIC <u>Oranienburg Airfield</u>		
25X1 EVALUATION 	PLACE OBTAINED 	25X1
25X1 DATE OF CONTENT 		
25X1 DATE OBTAINED 	DATE PREPARED <u>11 March 1954</u>	
REFERENCES 		
PAGES <u>1</u> ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____		
REMARKS _____		

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1. Between 23 January and 6 February 1954, no construction work was in progress at Oranienburg airfield. The field was unoccupied and guarded by civilians.
2. Between 4 and 15 February, the field was unoccupied and no construction work was being done.
3. Between 4 and 12 February, the air force unit which is stationed in the northern part of Weisse Stadt had an estimated strength of between 150 and 200 personnel. No special training by this unit was observed. On 4 February, the unit was seen drilling.
4. Between 6 and 17 February, individual sections of the runway were noted to be warped up to as much as 4 cm because of heavy frost. Other major damage was expected to occur after the termination of the frost period. Due to this reason, the Soviets have not as yet accepted the airfield. A guarantee for two years was included in the contract with the Bauunion Leipzig, therefore the Bauunion will be required to repair the runway. Construction supervisor Meyer of Bauunion Leipzig and Lieutenant Colonel Romanenko (fnu), inspected the damage and agreed that the field would be accepted only after the completed repairs. The five apartment buildings in the Weisse Stadt were also not accepted, because the buildings had been despoiled of switches, handles from the doors and windows, sockets, lamps, etc. while unguarded. The Bauunion must replace this equipment before acceptance. Lieutenant Colonel Romanenko ordered that the buildings must be guarded.

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Comment. The completion of improvement work at Oranienburg airfield was apparently hampered by continuous difficulties. The damages on the runway will probably postpone the occupation by an air unit for an undetermined period of time. The soldiers quartered in the northern section of the Weisse Stadt Settlement belong to a construction unit. The previously reported presence of an advance detail of an air unit has still not been confirmed.

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